
TAWHEED FOR YOUNG MUSLIMS

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**TAKEN FROM THE BOOK 'THE THREE FUNDAMENTAL
PRINCIPLES AND THE FOUR BASIC RULES'
BY SHEIKH MUHAMMAD SULAYMAN AT-TAMIMI**

Introduction

“Bismillahir rahman ar rahim, In the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful.”

The information in this book is from “The three fundamental principles and the four basic rules” by Sheikh Muhammad Sulayman At-Tameemi.

Asalamualaykum! Welcome to Tawheed for children. In this book you will learn the oneness of Allah and you will learn the basics of Tawheed. So get your thinking caps on and let's get started!

There are a few things you need to know...

- In order for us to learn Tawheed, we need knowledge. What kind of knowledge? First we need knowledge of Allah. We cannot worship him if we don't know him! Next we need knowledge of his messenger Muhammad (SAW) who came with the Quran. Lastly we need knowledge of Islam which is our religion.
- When we have gained the knowledge, we have to apply this knowledge in our lives. For example, when you have learned to pray, you then pray 5 times a day. Similarly, when we have learned about Tawheed, we apply it in our lives.
- When we have applied it in our lives, we call others to do it as well. This is called Dawah. We call others to worship Allah.
- When we call others to Allah (Dawah) we then have to be patient. Why do we have to be patient? Because it will take a very long time to call others to worship Allah. It took Muhammad (SAW) 23 years!

“By Al Asr (The time). Verily mankind is in loss, except those who believe and do righteous deeds and recommend others to truth (Order one another to do good deeds and stay away from bad deeds) and recommend one another to patience”
(Quran Al Asr 1-3)

Bukhari, may Allah have mercy upon him, said: “Knowledge comes before action”

“So KNOW (O Muhammad) that none has the right to be worshipped but Allah and ASK FORGIVENESS for your sin”
Allah mentioned knowledge before speech and performance of deeds.

Who is Allah?

“All praises and thanks be to Allah, the Lord of the Aalameen (Mankind, jinn and all that exists)”. (Al-Fatiha: 2)

Allah has told us that he is Allah the lord of everything, there is no Lord other than him. The word Lord means the one who is worshiped.

“O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allah), who created you and those who were before you so that you may become the pious. Who has made the earth a resting place for you, and the sky as a canopy, and sent down water (rain) from the sky and brought forth therewith fruits as a provision for you. Then do not set up rivals unto Allah (in worship) while you know (that he alone has the right to be worshipped).”

(Al Baqarah: 21-22)

Imam ibn Katheer, may Allah have mercy upon him said: “The one who created these creations is the one who has the right to be worshipped.”

All acts of worship such as Salah (praying), Sawm (Fasting), Zakat (Charity) Jihad (Protecting people and Islam) are only for Allah. If you intend to do any worship for anyone but Allah then this is disbelief. This is why it is important to learn Tawheed.

“And the mosques are for Allah (alone) so invoke not anyone along with Allah”

(Al Jinn: 18)

There are many conditions that Allah commanded people to fulfil such as:

Fear: “So fear them not, but fear me, if you are (true) believers.” (Aali Imran: 175)

Hope: “So whoever hopes for the meeting with his lord let him work righteousness and associate none as a partner in the worship of his lord.” (Al Kahf: 110)

Reliance: “And put your trust in Allah if you are believers indeed,” (Al Maaidah: 23)

Humbleness: “They used to hasten on to do good deeds, and they used to call on us with hope and fear, and used to humble themselves before us.” (Al Anbiya: 90)

Repentance: “And turn in repentance and in obedience with true faith (Islam) to your Lord and submit to him (in Islam).” (Az Zumar: 54)

Seeking help: “You alone we worship, and you (Alone) we ask for help (For everything).” (Al Fatiha: 5) prophet Muhammad (SAW) said “If you seek help. Seek it from Allah alone.”

Taking refuge: “Say: I seek refuge with Allah the Lord of mankind.” (An Naas: 1)

Calling for assistance: “(Remember) when you sought help of your Lord and he answered.” (Al Anfaal: 9)

Slaughtering: “Say (O Muhammad) verily my prayer, my sacrifice, my living and my dying are for Allah, the Lord of the Aalameen.” (Al An’ am: 162) Prophet Muhammad said “May Allah curse whoever slaughters for other than Allah.” (Muslim)

Vowing: “They (are those who) fulfil (their) vows, and fear a day whose evil will be wide spreading.” (Al Insaan: 7)

How have you come to know Allah?

Allah has given us signs in the Quran which we must explore and learn.

What signs did he give us?

- “And from among his signs are the night and day, and the sun and the moon. Prostrate yourselves to Allah who created them if you really worship him.” (Fussilat: 37)
- “Indeed your Lord is Allah, who created the heavens and the earth in 6 days, and then he Istawaa (Implies, rose over) the throne (In a matter that benefits his majesty). He brings the night as a cover over the day, seeking it rapidly, and (He created) the sun, the moon, the stars subjected to his command. Surely, His is the creation and commandment. Blessed is Allah, the Lord of the Aalameen.” (Al Araaf: 54)

In these ayahs, he gave us signs of the sun and the moon. Before Islam, people used to worship the sun. Allah gave this sign because Allah who created the sun and moon should be rightfully worshipped.

There are many signs Allah gave us, here are a few examples which you can study!

- The Bee “Then eat from all the fruits and follow the ways of your Lord laid down [for you].” There emerges from their bellies a drink, varying in colours, in which there is healing for people. Indeed in that is a sign for a people who give thought.” (An Nahl: 69)
- The spider “The example of those who take allies other than Allah is like that of the spider who takes a home. And indeed, the weakest of homes is the home of the spider, if they only knew.” (Al Ankabut: 41)
- The ant “Until, when they came upon the valley of the ants, an ant said, “O ants, enter your dwellings that you not be crushed by Solomon and his soldiers while they perceive not.” (Naml: 18)
- Crops “He causes to grow for you thereby the crops, olives, palm trees, grapevines, and from all the fruits. Indeed in that is a sign for a people who give thought.” (An Nahl: 11)
- Mountains “And He placed stabilizers (mountains) on earth, lest it tumbles with you, as well as rivers and roads, that you may be guided.” (An Nahl: 15)
- Stars “And landmarks, as well as the stars; to be used for navigation.” (An Nahl: 16)

Allah gave signs for us to study and to get to know Allah. It is obligatory for us to study.

“Have they not considered how Allah begins creation and then repeats it? Indeed that, for Allah, is easy.” (Al Ankabut: 19)

“Say, [O Muhammad], “Travel through the land and observe how He began creation. Then Allah will produce the final creation. Indeed Allah, over all things, is competent.” (Al Ankabut: 20)

Shahadah

The Shahadah is the testimony of faith and is the first pillar of Islam.

The Shahadah is “There is none that has the right to be worshipped except Allah and Muhammad (SAW) is the final messenger.”

(Laa ilaha ilallah muhammadun rasool Allah)

Fun Fact! You can say la ilaha ilallah without moving your lips!

Where does Allah say in the Quran the Shahadah?

“Allah witnesses that there is no deity except Him, and [so do] the angels and those of knowledge - [that He is] maintaining [creation] in justice. There is no deity except Him, the Exalted in Might, the Wise.” (Aali Imran: 18)

The words “Except Allah” means that worship is only for Allah with no partners.

The evidence for Allah having no partners is in the Quran “And (remember) when Ibrahim said to his father and his people: verily, I am innocent of what you worship, except him [i.e. I worship none but Allah alone who did create me; and verily, he will guide me. And he made it (i.e. none has the right to be worshipped but Allah alone)] a word lasting among his offspring, [true monotheism], that they may turn back [i.e. repent to Allah or receive warning].” (Az zukhruf: 26-28)

The evidence for the testimony to the message of Muhammad (SAW) is:

“Verily, there has come unto you a messenger [Muhammad (SAW)] from amongst yourselves [i.e. from whom you know well]. It grieves him that you should receive any injury or difficulty. He [Muhammad] is anxious over you [to be rightly guided. To repent, ask Allah to forgive you so that you may enter paradise and be saved from the Hellfire]; for the believers [he is] full of pity, kind and merciful.” At Tawbah: 128)

The testimony of the message of Muhammad (SAW) is that you obey him (SAW) in all that he ordered, believe him in all that he informed, stay away from all that which he prohibited, and that Allah is not to worship except through what Muhammad (SAW) legislated (Sunnah).

5 pillars

There are 5 pillars of Islam which are:

- Shahadah (Testimony of faith)
 - Salah (Prayer)
 - Zakat (Charity)
 - Sawm (Fasting)
 - Hajj (Pilgrimage)

Alhamdulillah we have covered the Shahadah and its importance, now we will cover the other 4 pillars. We must worship Allah through actions as well as belief.

Salah is very important; we must do these 5 times a day. It is recommended to do Sunnah prayers as well. The Sunnah prayers are 2 rakat after fajr, 4 rakats before dhur and 2 rakats after, 2 rakats after Maghrib and 2 rakats after Isha.

It was narrated that Buraydah ibn al-Husayb (may Allah be pleased with him) said: “I heard the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) say: ‘The covenant that distinguishes between us and them is the prayer, and whoever neglects it has disbelieved (become a kaafir).’” (It was narrated by Ahmad, Abu Dawood, al-Tirmidhi, al-Nisaa’i and Ibn Maajah).

The evidence for Salah and Zakat in the Quran is: “And they were not commanded except to worship Allah, [being] sincere to Him in religion, inclining to truth, and to establish prayer and to give Zakat. And that is the correct religion.” (Al Bayyinah: 5)

The evidence for fasting is: “O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous.” (Al Baqarah: 183)

The evidence for Hajj is: “In it are clear signs [such as] the standing place of Abraham. And whoever enters it shall be safe. And [due] to Allah from the people is a pilgrimage to the House - for whoever is able to find thereto a way. But whoever disbelieves - then indeed, Allah is free from need of the worlds.”

The 5 pillars of Islam are the minimum requirements of a Muslim. Hajj and Zakat are obligatory only for those who can afford it. For Zakat, you pay 2.5% of your excess wealth to those in need.

Eemaan

Eemaan has more than 70 levels, the highest of which is to say the Shahadah, and the lowest being the removal of harmful object from the paths of people; shyness is one of its branches.

Eemaan has 6 pillars:

“Righteousness is not that you turn your faces toward the east or the west, but [true] righteousness is [in] one who believes in Allah, the Last Day, the angels, the Book, and the prophets.” (Al Baqarah: 177)
“Indeed, all things we created with predestination.” (Al Qamar: 49)

The 6 pillars are:

- Belief in Allah- This is the Shahadah, in order to obey Allah we must believe in Allah and his wisdom.
- Belief in the Angels- Allah has created angels who worship him; we have angels on our shoulders that right down our good and bad deeds in books. These books will be presented on the day of judgement.
- Belief in the books of Allah- Allah sent down many books which are the Torah which was given to Musa (AS); the Zabur which was given to Dawood (AS), The Injil which was given to Esa (AS) and the Quran which was given to Muhammad (SAW). Over time the torah, zabur and the Injil became corrupted, it is only the Quran that is preserved.
- Belief in the hereafter- After death, we will be resurrected on the Day of judgement where Allah will decide if we will go to Jannah (Paradise) or Jahanam (Hell). This will be forever, if we obey Allah, we will go to Jannah.
- Predestination (Qadr, destiny) - Allah has knowledge of the past, the present and future. He knows all things. Allah gave us a free choice to worship him or not worship him. He knows what decisions we have made and going to make. Because Allah knows what decisions we have and will make, he knows if we will go to Jannah or Jahanam. Allah has given us tests in life so that we will be better and that we will be patient.
- Belief in the messengers- Allah has sent messengers who warn people of the hellfire and call on their people to worship Allah. Since Muhammad (SAW) is the last messenger, He came for all of mankind. We don't know how many messengers Allah has sent, but Allah has mentioned 25 prophets in the Quran. They are: Adam (AS), Idris (AS), Nuh (AS), Hud (AS), Salih (AS), Lut (AS), Ibrahim (AS), Ismail (AS), Ishaq (AS), Yaqub (AS), Yusuf (AS), Shuayb (AS), Haroon (AS), Imran (AS), Dawood (AS), Sulayman (AS), Ayoub (AS), Dhu'l Kifl (AS), Yunus (AS), Ilyas (AS), Al Yasra (AS), Zakariyya (AS), Yahya (AS), Isa (AS) and Muhammad (SAW).

Ihsaan

Ihsaan has only 1 pillar. Ihsaan is worshipping Allah as though you see him, and while you don't see him, truly he sees you. Allah has said in the Quran: “Truly, Allah is with those who fear him [keep their duty towards him], and those who are muhsinoon.” (An Nahl: 128)

“And, [O Muhammad], you are not [engaged] in any matter or recite any of the Qur'an and you [people] do not do any deed except that we are witness over you when you are involved in it. And not absent from your Lord is any [part] of an atom's weight within the earth or within the heaven or [anything] smaller than that or greater but that it is in a clear register.” (Yunus: 61)

There is also a famous narration in the hadith about angel Jibril On authority of Umar (RA) “While we were one day sitting with the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) there appeared before us a man dressed in extremely white clothes and with very black hair. No traces of journeying were visible on him, and none of us knew him. He sat down close by the Prophet (ﷺ) rested his knee against his thighs, and said: "O Muhammad! Inform me about Islam." The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) replied: "Islam is that you should testify that there is no deity except Allah and that Muhammad is His Messenger, that you should perform Salah (ritual prayer), pay the Zakat, fast during Ramadan, and perform Hajj (pilgrimage) to the House (the Ka'bah at Makah), if you can find a way to it (or find the means for making the journey to it)." He said: "You have spoken truly." We were astonished at his thus questioning him and then telling him that he was right, but he went on to say, "Inform me about iman (faith)." He (the Prophet) answered, "It is that you believe in Allah and His angels and His Books and His Messengers and in the Last Day, and in fate (Qadr), both in its good and in its evil aspects." He said, "You have spoken truly." Then he (the man) said, "Inform me about Ihsaan." He (the Prophet) answered, "It is that you should serve Allah as though you could see Him, for though you cannot see Him yet He sees you." He said, "Inform me about the Hour." He (the Prophet) said, "About that the one questioned knows no more than the questioner." So he said, "Well, inform me about its signs." He said, "They are that the slave-girl will give birth to her mistress and that you will see the barefooted ones, the naked, the destitute, the herdsmen of the sheep (competing with each other) in raising lofty buildings." Thereupon the man went off. I waited a while, and then he (the Prophet) said, "O Umar, do you know who that questioner was?" I replied, "Allah and His Messenger know better." He said, "That was Jibril. He came to teach you your religion." (Muslim)

Muhammad (SAW)

His name is Muhammad ibn Abdullah ibn Abdul Muttalib ibn Haashim. Haashim is a tribe from Quraysh, Quraysh is from the tribes of the Arabs, and Arabs are descendants of prophet Ismail (AS) the son of prophet Ibrahim (AS).

Muhammad (SAW) lived for 63 years, 40 of which were before prophet hood and 23 years as a prophet and messenger. He was told that he was a prophet with the first surah that was revealed Surah Al Alaq. He was told he was a messenger in surah Al Muddaththir: 1-2.

His home town was Makah: and Allah sent him to warn people against shirk (Associating partners with Allah) and call towards Islam. Allah says in the Quran: “O you who covers himself [with a garment], Arise and warn! And magnify your Lord [Allah]! And purify your garments! And keep away from ruzj [Idols]! And give not a thing in order to have more [or consider not your deeds of obedience to Allah as a favour to him]. And be patient for the sake of your Lord [i.e., perform your duty to Allah]!” (Al Muddaththir: 1-7)

“Warn” here means against shirk and “call” is towards Tawheed; “Magnify your lord” means to glorify him by believing in his oneness; “Purify your garments” means purify your deeds from shirk. Muhammad (SAW) gave dawah for 10 years. After 10 years, Salah was made compulsory. He prayed in Makah for 3 years and after that he was commanded to migrate to medina.

Hijrah (Migration) is to move from the land of shirk and kufr to the land of Islam. It is compulsory upon all Muslims, and will remain as an obligation until the day of judgement. Allah says “O my slaves who believe! Certainly, spacious is my earth. Therefore worship me. [Alone].” (Al Ankaboot: 56) Imam Al Baghawi, may Allah have mercy upon him said: “This verse was revealed for the Muslims who remained in Makah and did not migrate.”

Muhammad (SAW) said “Hijrah will never stop until repentance stops, and repentance will never stop until the sun rises from the west (The hereafter).” (Ahmad)

When Muhammad (SAW) lived in medina, he said the commands of Zakat, Hajj, Sawm, jihad, aadhaan (Call to prayer), enjoining good and forbidding evil etc.

Obedying the prophet (SAW) is compulsory for all jinn and mankind. Allah says “ Say [O Muhammad]: O mankind! Verily, I am sent to you all as the messenger of Allah- to whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth.” (Al A’raaf: 158)

With him (SAW), Allah perfected the religion. Allah says in the Quran “ This day I have perfected your religion for you, completed my favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.” (Al-Maaidah: 3)

Shirk (Disbelief)

Allah has created you to worship him alone, and that worship is only accepted when by means of Islamic monotheism. Just as Salah is not valid except with wudhu (washing before prayer), worship is not valid if there is shirk present.

Allah forgives all sins but he does not forgive shirk. “Allah forgives not that partners should be set up with him [in worship], but he forgives except that [anything else] to whom he wills.” (An Nisaa: 48)

You must know what rescues you from shirk.

- The Kafirs (Disbelievers) who the prophet fought believed that Allah is the creator of the heavens and the earth and all that is in between but the belief in itself did not make them Muslims. “Who provides for you from the sky and the earth or who owns hearing and sight? And who brings out the living from the dead and the dead from the living. And who disposes the affairs. They will say ‘Will you not then be afraid of Allah’s punishment [for setting up rivals in worship with Allah]?’ “(Yunus: 31) They worshipped other gods as well which made them Kafirs (Disbelievers).
- The Kafirs said at the time of the prophet said that they worshipped idols so that they would get closer to Allah. “Surely, the religion [i.e. the worship and the obedience] is for Allah only. And those who take Awliyaa [Protectors, helpers, lords, gods] besides Him [say]: we worship them only that they may bring us near to Allah. Verily, Allah will judge between them concerning that wherein they differ. Truly, Allah guides not him who is a liar, and a disbeliever.” (Az Zumar: 3) There are 2 types of intercession, one which is from the dead, an object or an idol, the other is from a person who says that he can accept good deeds and forgive you on behalf of Allah. Both of these are shirk. It is only Allah that can intercede. “Who is he that can intercede with him except with his permission?” (Al Baqarah: 255)
- The prophet (SAW) was raised amongst people who worshipped angels, prophets, righteous people, the sun, moon, stars, and trees and so on. The prophet (SAW) fought them and did not make any distinction between them. “And fight them until there is no more fitna [Worshipping others besides Allah] and the religion [Worship] will all be for Allah alone [throughout the world].” (Al Anfaal: 39) We do not worship anything but Allah, we do not put our trust in anything but Allah.
- The Kafirs are worse in our time than those in earlier times because they used to sincerely seek help from Allah when they were in times of need and worship idols when they were happy. Now, they worship idols in both times of need and when they are happy. “And when they embark on a ship, they invoke Allah, making their faith pure for him only, but when he brings them safely to land, behold, they give a share of their worship to others.” (Al Ankaboot: 65) We have to worship Allah alone in both times of need and when we are happy.

Alhamdulillah we have reached the end of the book...but this is just the beginning! We must continue our learning and try to become people of knowledge in shaa allah (God willing). Now we know about Tawheed, we must do the next step which is applying the knowledge in our lives. I hope you enjoyed this book, until next time, Asalamualaykum.

Jasmine